

REMARKS

This is a divisional of co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/603,957 filed June 26, 2000. Applicants respectfully request that the within amendments be entered to the subject divisional application prior to examination thereof by the Examiner.

The Specification has been amended to include a cross-reference to the parent. Claims 1 - 18 have been cancelled, and new claims 19 - 23 have been added. New claims 19 - 23 are directed, at least in part, to a claim species recited in the parent, as originally filed, that was not elected by Applicants (i.e., in response to the Examiner's requirement for restriction in the parent) to be prosecuted in the parent. It is believed that no new matter has been added to the subject divisional application as a result of the within amendments.

No prosecution history estoppel results from the within claim amendments, because this a divisional application and the within claim amendments are being made to pursue subject matter claimed, at least in part, in the parent, but not elected for prosecution in the parent.

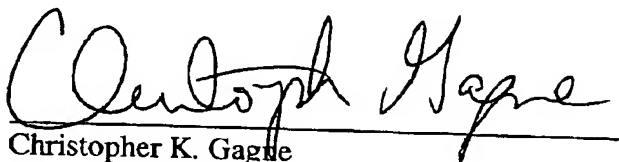
It is respectfully requested that the Patent Office consider and make of record the prior art made of record in the parent and cited in the accompanying IDS.

In the event that the Examiner deems personal contact desirable in the further disposition of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at 508-865-4168.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges occasioned by this submission to
Deposit Account number 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 16 JAN 04



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